

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1892.

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LEWIS JONES, Pink Hill, P. O., Lenoir county.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

FOR PRESIDENT,
GEN. FRANKLIN PIERCE,
Of New Hampshire.
FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
HON. WM. R. KING,
Of Alabama.

"No North, no South, no East, no West, under the Constitution; but a sacred maintenance of the common bond and true devotion to the common brotherhood."
FRANKLIN PIERCE

The Henry Clay.

It would seem that the loss of life by the burning of the Henry Clay was much greater than had been supposed. There is no list of passengers, but the opinion is that one hundred lives have been lost.

The Henry Clay and the America, steamers belonging to rival lines, left Albany for New York on the morning of 28th ult., and commenced racing from the jump. Such immense fires had been kept up in the boiler that the heat in the vicinity of the engine and boiler rooms was so great that it had become almost impossible to pass from one end of the vessel to the other.

About a quarter before three o'clock, p. m., just after passing the village of Yonkers, the cry of fire was heard from the centre of the vessel. In less than a minute, the whole centre of the vessel was enveloped in flames. A Western steamboat captain, who was on board, gives his opinion that there must have been rosin, tar, or some such inflammable matter in use in the boiler room for fuel; and without that the flames and smoke could not have spread so rapidly. The boat was headed for shore, and struck two miles and a half below Yonkers. She struck bow on—the passengers were in the afterpart, and the flames cut off all communication from the bows. There were some three hundred people huddled on the afterguards—having but the dreadful alternative of drowning or burning. There were no boats.

We learn by a letter, received here from Sheriff Fennell himself, dated July 29th, the day after the accident, that when the fire broke out he was in another part of the boat, but rushed into the saloon to find his wife, which he did after a good deal of trouble, owing to the confusion, panic and excitement. It was necessary to leave the burning boat. He prepared to do so, his wife grasping his collar. Before he or they had swam any distance, a drowning man caught him, from whom he escaped with a great deal of difficulty. His wife was exhausted, and he returned and clung for some time to the rudder of the boat to recover strength; when striking out again, a man jumped from the boat between them and separated them, and his wife sunk to rise no more. When Mr. Fennell reached shore, he was too much exhausted to stand. A despatch from New York dated July 30th, states that he was then in that city, having recovered his wife's remains. Every assistance and attention has been extended to him.

The River & Harbor Bill.—The Port of Wilmington.

The River and Harbor Bill reported by the committee on commerce, and amended in the committee of the whole House, passed the House of Representatives on Friday last, by a vote of 103 yeas, to 75 nays. It contains an appropriation of ten thousand dollars for the Cape Fear River.

During the discussion of the bill in committee of the whole, Mr. Ashe, of North Carolina, offered an amendment, empowering the commissioners of the town of Wilmington to levy a tonnage duty to remove obstructions in the Cape Fear River. The amendment was adopted in committee of the whole, and was a part of the bill when it finally passed the House. It is quite probable that this present bill will also pass the Senate. We believe that it empowers the commissioners to levy a tonnage duty not exceeding four per cent.

The Washington Union says: "This amendment is in accordance with the tenth section of the first article of the constitution, which provides that 'no State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, &c.' It was adopted in committee of the whole, and, if sanctioned by Congress, may be productive of important effects on the improvement policy of the government. Immediately after the adoption of the federal constitution, the system of improving rivers and harbors by means of tonnage duties, levied with the consent of Congress, was adopted, and many cities, in the early history of our government, relied upon this source for the means of improving their harbors and the rivers on which they were situated, and would not have abandoned it but for the seductions of extravagant expenditures for local purposes from the federal treasury. Mr. Polk, in his celebrated veto of the river and harbor bill, urged the adoption of the plan of improvement contained in Mr. Ashe's amendment, and sustained by the committee." And, we may add, by the House.

The Difficulty about the Fisheries.

The New Brunswick papers say that Mr. Webster misunderstands the nature of the instructions given by the British Government to its naval forces, in regard to the fisheries; the instructions are to exclude the American vessels only from the bays that are less than six miles wide. These papers reiterate their opinion that Brother Jonathan will doubtless offer reciprocal free trade, to save his fisheries.

We like to be as patriotic as anybody, but still we think it by no means improbable that the go-ahead down-east fishermen may have been encroaching very considerably upon the reserved rights of the Blue-noses, and in strict construction of law, subjected themselves to seizure. The chief ground of excitement seems to be that the British Government had so long lain dormant in the matter, and then so suddenly wakened rampant. It looks like trapping the fishermen.

We have not a doubt that it will all come right. The British construction of the treaty claims too much for their side. The American fishermen have, no doubt, gone farther than any construction would warrant.

The steamship Europa arrived at New York on the 29th, with Liverpool dates to the 17th.

The elections for Parliament are over, and the clear majority against the Ministry will be at least 96. Serious election riots had occurred in Cork, Limerick, Belfast, and elsewhere in Ireland.

The treaty of commerce between Switzerland and the United States has been completed, and Dudley Mann, the U. S. Commissioner, had left for home.

Letters from Kossuth have been seized in Italy, and sent to Austria. In Lombardy, many arrests had been made.

NEW ORLEANS, July 28. There is a general apprehension from the latest news, of an Indian war. There is considerable excitement here, and the army is being increased.

He Quarrels.

Gen. Scott, when a Captain, was court-martialed for retaining in his own hands, pay entrusted to him for the soldiers under his command; and also, for defaming a superior officer. He was found guilty of retaining the money, but acquitted of any dishonest motive. He was also found guilty of defaming his superior officer, and suspended for one year. When he was reinstated in the army, he quarrelled with General Wilkinson, and wrote several rancorous assaults upon that excellent officer. He subsequently quarrelled with Gen. Jackson, as will be seen by the correspondence published in to-day's paper, but declined to fight him; and then challenged Gov. Clinton, who, by his oath of office, was prevented from fighting. Gen. Scott next quarrelled with Gens. Macomb and Gaines; also with his political friend, President Adams. So outrageous indeed, did his conduct towards Mr. Adams become, as to lead to Gen. Scott's suspension, as was seen by the letter of the Secretary of War, bearing date Nov. 26th, 1828, which we published a few days since. He was angry because the chief command was given to Macomb and not to himself.

When Gen. Macomb died, Gen. Scott became, by the date of his commission, commander-in-chief of the army; and since that time, he has been almost constantly wrangling with the Department, or with his inferior officers. Gen. Jackson had to recall him from Florida, on account of his insolence and exceptional policy. When the Mexican war broke out, he quarrelled with President Polk's administration because he was not sent to command the army operating in Northern Mexico, under Gen. Taylor. When it was determined to despatch him on another route of operations, through Vera Cruz, he wrote his "hasty paper of scold," letter, declining, lest there might be a "fire in the rear." When finally he did go to Mexico, he quarrelled with Gen. Worth, and placed that noble and chivalrous officer under arrest. He quarrelled with Gen. Pillow, Col. Harney, Gen. Patterson, Col. Duncan, Major Burns, Commodore Perry, and every body else, it would seem, that he had anything to do with; keeping up, in the meantime, a running fire of grumbling and snarling at the administration, receiving from Secretary Marcy one of the most overwhelming rebukes that a vain man ever got. It was terrible.

What sort of President would Gen. Scott make, these being his traits of character?

This is a great world, specially parts of it, and we every now and then hear of ourselves having done things, of which, without other people had told us, we would have remained in stupid ignorance.—For instance, we learn that it was currently reported Friday last down at Scott's Hill, that we were busy electing a candidate for sheriff. Might we ask with what single, solitary man we have ever elected one? We have something else to do. Our electing one, there, is made out of the whole cloth, warp and woof. We state this because we want the truth told, not because we care a sixpence about the thing itself. In our private capacity as a citizen, we have the same rights as anybody else, and mean to exercise them, without caring who is offended.

Again, somebody in town, we understand, has told Mr. Williams that he bet a hat with us upon the Sheriff's election. Might we again venture to ask who the individual is who has bet a hat with us upon the Sheriff's election. It is the first we ever heard of, and we ask for information. It would certainly put us in possession of a fact, derivable only through the medium of the spiritual "rappers."

It takes hard sifting to get the truth out of reports at election times. Trifles are exaggerated into something great. The story of the three black crows is nothing to it. A meaning is attached to things that they were never intended to convey, and away the rumor goes, gathering at each turn, but never losing.

This is a funny world, generally speaking. We are beginning to find it out and he amused at it.

We understand that the closing exercises of the session at Topsail Academy came off on Friday last, in the presence of a very respectable assembly, a goodly portion of which was composed of ladies. The exercises for the forenoon consisted of declamation by some eight or ten boys—all of them good, remarkably good indeed. Of some of them our informant speaks in terms of the very highest praise. Their intelligence and proficiency was highly creditable to themselves, and spoke well for the pains which had been bestowed upon their instruction.

Lemonade and refreshments in abundance were served in the school room. Dinner was set at a fine oak grove close to the house. It was provided by the patrons of the school, and was of course excellent, both in regard to the more solid viands and also in regard to the smaller delicacies of tarts, pies, cakes, &c.

In the afternoon an oration was delivered by Thomas H. Williams, Esq., on Music as a branch of academic education. It is spoken of as logical, classical, and very interesting. The orator dwelt upon the influence of musical instruction upon physical, moral and social development and national progress, showing an extensive acquaintance with ancient history and modern society.

All passed off pleasantly, and with the most cheering prospects for the success of the school. We understand that it is in contemplation to erect a suitable and commodious building near the school house to be occupied as a hotel or boarding house for the accommodation of scholars.

The steamship Prometheus arrived at New York on the 29th, with San Francisco dates to the 3d.

We note little or nothing of importance in her intelligence. The mining news indicates continued prosperity. Harvesting was progressing rapidly.—Gov. Ford, of Mo., was murdered near Cuba, on the 27th ult.

A new Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted in this town by W. L. SMITH, Esq., D. D. G. M., on Wednesday evening last, by the name of Clarendon Lodge, No. 45.

The following officers were duly installed, viz: Wm. E. Anderson, Stephen D. Wallace, V. G. Sec'y, Wm. J. Cornwall, Jno. McRae, Jr., Treas'r.

This Lodge has been started under favorable auspices, and has our best wishes for a long and useful career in the discharge of those ennobling duties and praiseworthy objects which constitute the foundation of Odd Fellowship. It is a section of Cape Fear Lodge, No. 2, which still keeps up a separate organization.—Herald, 31st ult.

Arrival of the Sierra Nevada. New York, July 30—10 p. m.—The steamship Sierra Nevada, from Aspinwall, arrived at her wharf this evening shortly after 9 o'clock.

She left Aspinwall on the 22d instant, and brings \$110,000 in gold and 167 passengers, but no later news from California.

The steamship Ohio left Aspinwall on the same day with the mail from California, and the treasure brought down to Panama by the steamer Columbia.

The steamer Winfield Scott left Panama on the 17th instant for San Francisco, with 600 passengers. The steamer Golden Gate was to leave Panama on the 25th, with about 150 passengers and 600 United States troops.

When a woman loath her good name, she can get it back again. Such is generally the case with a

From the Nashville Union of the 13th inst. Letter from General Pillow.—His Opinion of Franklin Pierce.

COLUMBIA, (Tenn.) July 8, 1852.

As everything touching the character of General Pierce, as well as the opinion of our public men, now interest the public, I have thought it not improper to give you, for publication, an extract of a private letter of the late ex-President Polk, written to me on the 18th day of May, 1847, and delivered to me in the city of Puebla, Mexico. The extract is as follows, viz: "Your two brigadier generals, Pierce and Cadwallader, who will be under your immediate command, are noble men. General Pierce is now the first man in New England. He is a man of fine talents. He is my personal friend, and you may fully confide in him. He was with me in the House of Representatives for several years, and was afterwards in the Senate. General Cadwallader is a gentleman of high character, and of decided military reputation. You may well be proud of two such officers under your command."

Of General Cadwallader, who is not before the country, it is not my purpose to make any remark. His character for gallant conduct and chivalric bearing is well known, and need never will be questioned. Nor should I deem it necessary to add a single remark to the paragraph so fully expressive of the opinion of the late distinguished ex-President of the nation, except for the very unjust, libelous, and false reflections upon the conduct of General Pierce while an officer of the army in Mexico, by certain Eastern presses, and by Senator Jones and Mr. Netherlands, of Tennessee.

In operations of the army in the valley of Mexico, that General Pierce fully sustained the exalted opinion of ex-President Polk will be seen by reference to the reports of Major Generals Scott and Worth, and those of my own. These despatches were all prepared with a personal knowledge of the gallant bearing of General Pierce, and at the same time and under circumstances exempting those officers from any possible mistake or over-estimate of the importance of his services or the character of his conduct.

The reports of the first and last of these officers agree in the statement of the fact that Gen. Pierce was severely injured by the fall of his horse on the rocks of the Pedregal while gallantly leading his brigade in the battle of Contreras. They also bear full testimony to the fact, that though so badly injured he might have retired to the hospital as disabled for duty, and though barely able to keep his saddle, yet he remained upon duty, and led his gallant brigade into the bloody battle of Churubusco, and continued in its command until overcome by exhaustion and pain, he fainted, fell from his horse, and was borne to the field.

When it is known to the country that the whole army, including General Pierce, had been upon duty from early on the morning of the 19th till late in the day on the 20th of August, without refreshment or repose, and that Gen. Pierce was so badly injured by the fall of his horse that he lay upon the field and in the midst of the Federal all night, and that next day was "barely able to keep his saddle," before this long and bloody battle commenced, after a long and hot pursuit of the enemy; when these facts are known to the country, as they are to those who shared in the glories and sufferings of that field, I am persuaded that no one will either feel or express surprise that Gen. Pierce's physical strength, over-extended by fatigue, pain, and exhaustion, should have given way; thus dishonoring should have fainted and fallen from his horse. But it is presuming a great deal to suppose that those who bore him from the field should not have known the difference between an officer whose physical strength was actually so over-taxed, and in a state of total helplessness and unconsciousness, and one who had from this condition.

But it is impossible for an intelligent people to believe that had an officer of Gen. Pierce's rank and command so acted, his immediate division commander and General Scott himself, and Generals Worth and Shields—the former of these his associate on the field, the latter commanding him in that part of it—would all have concurred in making out false reports to the government, thus dishonoring themselves to screen from merited commendation and disgrace an officer who had basely and cowardly shrunk from duty. Those who entertain this opinion utterly discredit and dishonor all those officers, and among them General Scott himself; for upon no supposition can the character and conduct of Gen. Pierce be held up for courage and gallantry be called in question.

Why not call in question that of Gen. Scott himself? Because during the battle of Contreras he was, with the exception of a short period, at San Augustine; while during the battle of Churubusco he was at Covacan; and during the battle of Molino del Rey and during the storming of Chapultepec he was at Tacubaya; and yet who has ever done so? Gen. Scott might have been nearer these fields. He was, however, near enough to successfully direct the operations of the army, which required not his immediate presence to inspire it to deeds of courage and heroic daring. He knew that no results would be obtained by unnecessarily exposing his person; and hence he prudently and wisely occupied positions, thus dishonoring what remote, from which he could safely direct the operations of the army. Yet it would be as reasonable and as just to reflect upon Gen. Scott's conduct and character for gallantry as Gen. Pierce's.

If Gen. Pierce had sought a less active participation in these bloody operations, the wound he received by the fall of his horse would have thrown him out of the after operations, and he would (as he could with honor) have retired to the hospital or his tent, as disabled for duty, and thus have avoided all risk in the battle of Churubusco. If, owing to the injury he received on the 19th, he had a less distinguished part than did others, yet his participation was by no means a negative one.

An officer who won honorable mention for gallantry and good conduct, in battles where all had so full and glorious a share, in the official reports of every officer upon the field who was his senior, (including General Scott himself,) could have performed no negative part upon other fields; and among officers less distinguished, his services would have greatly distinguished him, and might have satisfied the highest aspirations of the most ambitious soldier.

Having a personal knowledge of the facts here stated, I feel it a duty of honor to state them in vindication of the character of a brother officer, unjustly reflected upon by those knowing personally nothing of the facts; and if I know myself, I would not by my envious acquiescence in any statement before the public to do injury to the pride and honor of gentlemen of an American soldier, whether whig or democrat.

I have no wish to throw myself before the public, nor into the canvass, nor before the country, nor to make any issue with any portion of the press. Neither do I seek or wish a collision with any gentleman of the whig party. I have the honor of a personal acquaintance with a number of kind relations with both the gentlemen named above as of my own State, and I might say that they would be understood as correcting their statements—based, as I suppose, upon erroneous information. But, be this as it may, the imputation is just—is false and calumnious.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant, GIDEON P. PILLOW.

SUPERIOR COURTS.—The Judges of the Superior Court of Law will ride the ensuing Fall Circuits in the following order:

1. Newbern, " Bay. 2. Raleigh, " Seale. 3. Hillsborough, " Dick. 4. Wilmington, " Caldwell. 5. Salisbury, " Ellis. 6. Morganton, " Bailey.

A SAILOR DEVoured BY A SHARK AT NORFOLK.—The Norfolk Argus says.—The other night one of the men on board the U. S. ship Pennsylvania attempted to make his escape from the service by plunging overboard in expectation of reaching the shore in safety. The poor fellow had scarcely, however, touched the water, when he was seized by a large shark and speedily despatched. His cries for help are represented as being piteous in the extreme, but before the boats could get to his assistance he was destroyed by the voracious monster of our waters, having several men upon his sick list—their instinct, when there is disease on shipboard, prompting them to pursue in the wake in hopes of prey. Such sagacity is truly wonderful.

Ann Maria Wilson, colored, aged 52 years, was found dead in Barker street, yesterday. Cause, starvation.—New York Tribune, 12th.

Near head of a Southern slave drive, of this day.

Gen. Jackson, Gen. Scott, and Gov. DeWitt Clinton. In April, 1817, (says the Nashville Union, of a late date), Gen. Jackson, the commander of the Southern Division of the U. S. Army, issued an order concerning the government of terms highly insulting to a brother officer, with whom he had been on terms of intimacy. Of the language of Gen. Scott, Gen. Jackson was informed by an anonymous letter from New York, and he immediately made a respectful call upon Gen. Scott for an explanation. The reply of Gen. Scott, as appears from the annexed letter, was insulting and opprobrious. This letter we have never seen in print, but to it Gen. Jackson replied as follows:

GEN. JACKSON TO GEN. SCOTT. HEAD QUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, NASHVILLE, Dec. 3, 1817.

Sir: I have been absent from this place for a considerable time, rendering the last friendly office I could, to a particular friend, whose eyes I closed on the 20th ult. Owing to this, your letter of the 4th October has not reached me until this instant. Upon the receipt of the anonymous communication made me from New York, I hastened to lay it before you: that course was suggested to me by the respect I felt for you as a man and a soldier, and that you might have in your power to answer how far you had been guilty of so base and execrable conduct. Independent of the services you have rendered your country, the circumstances of your wearing the badge and insignia of a soldier, led me to the conclusion that I was addressing a gentleman. With those feelings you were written to, and had an idea been for a moment entertained that you could have descended from the high and dignified character of a Major General of the army of the United States, and used a language so opprobrious and insolent as you have done, rest assured I should have regarded you as rather too contemptible to have held any conversation with you on the subject. If you have lived in the world thus long in the entire ignorance of the obligations and duties which honor impose, you are indeed past the time of hearing; and surely I must be ignorant of them, who seems so little to understand their influence.

Pray, sir, does your recollection serve, in what school of philosophy you were taught: that to a letter inquiring into the nature of a supposed injury, and clothed in language so decorous and unexceptionable, an answer should be given, couched in pompous insolence and bullying expression? I had hoped that what was charged upon you by my anonymous correspondent, was unfounded; I had hoped that from the belief that Gen. Scott was a soldier and a gentleman; and when I see these statements doubly confirmed by his own words, it becomes a matter of inquiry how far a man of honorable feelings can reconcile them to himself, or longer set up a claim to that character. Are you ignorant, sir, that had my order, at which your refined judgment is so extremely touched, been made the subject of inquiry, you might, from your standing, not your character, been regarded as a vulgar fellow? How could it be otherwise, when it was thus situated, and without a knowledge of any of the attendant circumstances, for you to have prejudged the whole matter. That at different times and in the circle of your friends, you could do; and yet, had I been arraigned, and you detailed as one of my judges, with the designs of an assassin lurking under a fair exterior, you would have approached the tribunal with a shattered mind, and with this congenial with that high sense of dignity which should be seated in a soldier's bosom? Is it due from a brother officer to assail in the dark the reputation of another, and stab him at a moment when he cannot expect it? I might insult an honorable man with questions such as these, but shall not expect that they will harrow up one who must be able to tell all the feelings which are characteristics of a gentleman.

In terms as polite as I was capable of noting, I asked you if my informant had stated truly, if you were the author of the publication and remarks charged against you and to what extent; a reference to your letter, without any comment upon mine, will clearly show how far you have pursued the same course. How little of the gentleman and how much of the hectoring bully you have manifested. If nothing else would, the epaulets which grace your shoulders should have dictated a different course, and have admonished you that, however small may have been your respect for another, respect for yourself should have taught you a necessity of replying, at least mildly, to the inquiries suggested; and more especially to the inquiry made, "when your own constructions must have fixed you as guilty of the abominable crime of detraction—of slandering, and behind his back an officer. But not content with answering to what was proposed, your overbearing vanity has led you to make an offering of your abuse.

Believe me, sir, it is not in my power to render thanks; I think too highly of myself to suppose that I stand at all in need of your admonitions; and too lightly of you to appreciate them as useful. For good advice I am always thankful; but never fail to spurn it when I know it to flow from an incompetent and unfeeling source. I have no doubt that you and guilty passions dwell in the place to look for virtue. My notions, sir, are not those now taught in modern school, and in fashionable high life; they were imbibed in ancient days, and hitherto have, and yet bear me to the conclusion: that he who can wantonly outrage the feeling of another—who, without cause, can cast imputations where none is done, is capable of any crime, however detestable in its nature, and will not fail to commit it, whenever it be imposed by necessity.

I shall not stoop to a justification of my order before you, or to notice the weakness and absurdities of your flimsy rhetoric; it may be quite conclusive to yourself, and I have no disposition to attempt convincing you, that your language is as gross and profane as you have imagined it. To my government, whenever it may please, I hold my self liable to answer, and to produce the reasons which prompted me to the course I took; and the intermeddling spies and pimps of the war department, who are in the garb of gentlemen, I hold myself responsible for any grievance they may create, and for any wrong which you may have my permission to impute to yourself. For what I have said I offer no apology; you have deserved it all, and more, were it necessary to say more. I will barely remark in conclusion, that if you feel yourself aggrieved at what is here said, any communication from you will meet me safely at this place.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obt. serv't.

Brevet Major Gen. W. Scott, U. S. Army, N. Y. To this letter, after a delay of one month, General Scott replied as follows:

GENERAL SCOTT TO GENERAL JACKSON. HEAD QUARTERS, 1ST AND 3D MILITARY DEPT., NEW YORK, Jan. 2, 1817.

Sir: Your letter of the 3d ultimo, was handed to me on the 22d, and had not been read. I might say thought of, since these circumstances will show you that it is my wish to reply to you "dispassionately."

I regret that I cannot accept the challenge you offer me. Perhaps I may be restrained from wishing to level a pistol at the breast of a fellow being, in private combat, by a sense of religion; but lest this motive should excite the ridicule of gentlemen of liberal habits of thinking and acting, I beg leave to add, that I decline the honor of your invitation from patriotic scruples. My ambition is not that of Erosstratus. I should think it would be easy for you to console yourself under this refusal, by the application of a few epithets, as coward, &c., to the object of your resentment, and I here promise to leave you until the next war, to persuade yourself of their truth.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant, WINFIELD SCOTT.

To Gen. Andrew Jackson, Commanding the Southern Division of the United States Army.

In April, 1819, De Witt Clinton of New York, a talented and high-toned man, made the following publication in the Newspapers of the day in regard to General Scott. It explained itself.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Gen. Scott, of the Army of the United States, having, in a letter of the 3d of January, 1817, to General Jackson, insinuated that I had written, dictated or instigated an anonymous letter to the latter gentleman, for unworthy motives and improper purposes; and having also concealed the imputation reached me on the 20th ult. I feel it my duty to declare that I had no part in the publication of a pamphlet which reached me on the 20th ult. I feel it my duty to declare that I had no part in the publication of a pamphlet which reached me on the 20th ult. I feel it my duty to declare that I had no part in the publication of a pamphlet which reached me on the 20th ult.

This declaration is made from motives of respect for public opinion and not from any regard for General Scott, whose conduct on this occasion is such a total departure from honor and propriety, as to render him unworthy of the notice of a man who has any respect for himself.

It is not probable that I can at this time have any recollection of having had the honor of seeing Gen. Scott on the 9th of June, 1817, at a dinner in New York, or of the topic of conversation as he suggests; circumstances so unimportant are not apt to be impressed upon the memory. But I feel a confident persuasion that I did not make use of any expression incompatible with the high respect which I entertain for Gen. Jackson.

DEWITT CLINTON. Albany, April 6th, 1819.

After this publication had been before the country a considerable length of time, DeWitt Clinton was elected Governor of New York, and upon his inauguration took a public oath of the most binding character, against duelling. As soon as Governor Clinton had taken upon himself the oath of office, Gen. Scott challenged him to fight a duel, on account of the above publication. In reply to this challenge, Gov. Clinton informed the General that he would "hold his challenge under advisement, until he (Scott) should settle an unadjusted difficulty between himself and one Andrew Jackson."

The Mint. The following is a synopsis of the operations of the Mint, from an elaborate table recently made up by the Mint, at all the mints.

COINAGE AT ALL THE MINTS.		
To close of 1847.	\$145,111,295 61	
To close of 1848.	5,579,720 49	
To close of 1849.	11,164,695 92	
To close of 1850.	33,572,996 00	
To close of 1851.	63,485,524 38	
Five months 1852.	22,339,331 71	
Total coinage at all the mints.	\$281,878,874 59	

U. S. Mint at Philadelphia. \$228,690,568 69
Branch mint at New Orleans. \$45,661,665 00
Branch mint at Charlotte, N. C. \$3,211,933 50
Branch mint at Dahlonega, Ga. \$4,455,657 50

Total coinage. \$281,878,874 59
COINAGE OF THE DIFFERENT METALS.
Gold coinage. \$192,203,888 50
Silver coinage. 78,252,090 90
Copper coinage. 1,422,925 19

Total coinage. \$281,878,874 59
The following is a statement of the value of gold of domestic production, deposited at the Mint and its branches, from their organization to May 31, 1852:

DEPOSITS OF AMERICAN GOLD.
From California. \$118,698,682
From other sources. 16,166,581

PAPER DUELS.—A history of the Newspaper duels of the day would be an amusing book. If once a "personal affair" gets into the public journals, it usually ends there. People who mean "fight" and not "bounce" always contrive to prevent premature disclosures. How could it be otherwise, when the wording of a cartel whether the party is intent on gunpowder. Courage is cut; it does not indulge in long explanations. In fact, two parties who have made up their minds to fight are almost as brief in their correspondence as were Captain Brilliant and Lieutenant Hurricane in the "Post Captain," when respective marriages. "Dear Hurricane, I am spliced," writes the captain. "I have made it," replies the lieutenant. We would suggest the following as good forms for a challenge and acceptance. "Sir—Apologies or fight. If the latter, name time and place. Yours, &c." Then the challenged party, supposing he had the "grit" might reply: "Sir—fight. Pistols, 6 a. m. at the City Arms and Ammunition Store. This would be settling the affair in a business, off-hand way, and would tell remarkably well in the papers after one of the parties had been shot, and the other arrested under the act for the prevention and punishment of duelling.

Another Defender of Gen. Pierce. The United States Service Journal, edited by Col. W. W. Tompkins, New York, contains another vindication of Gen. Pierce, by a companion-in-arms, as was the editor, in Mexico. The Journal is neutral in politics, but prompt at meeting and defending all unjust reflections upon the army and its officers, of the past or the present. The following is the article of the "Gen. FRANKLIN PIERCE.—It is painful to hear now and then a squib from some volunteer, reflecting upon the valor of this citizen when acting as the commandant of a volunteer force in Mexico.—Although such an instance is not worth repeating, we cannot avoid remarking that the parties in the squib with their tongue as to slur at others. Whenever you meet a man, reader, who has the kindness to entertain you with a detail of his chivalrous actions, and is free to detract from the merits of others, who would damn the character of their superiors with slanders and insinuations, you may turn the story end for end and say that the parties in the squib are in their proper position. Gen. Pierce is an honorable man and a brave officer. Go, citizens, to Gen. Scott, and to the officers of the army who acted in his and their vicinity, and inquire of them whether he was qualified as an officer—that is, if you think the speeches of those who have made insinuations are worthy of notice at all. I think they are not. Thank God, once more we may say that the matter of other considerations, that on at least of the candidates (we shall have four perhaps, in the field,) for the presidency, is irreproachable beyond all, positively firm and clear-headed on the great question of the times—namely, slavery—a word that never should be spoken in Congress in relation to, or in connection with slavery, and which is a constitutional feature."

An Important Bill in Relation to Post Office Affairs. A bill has been introduced to the House of Representatives to prevent the carrying of letters, newspapers, or of the mail, by private express companies. The first section provides that no custom house officer shall permit any vessel arriving at a port to enter, until all letters on board shall be delivered to the nearest post office, and an affidavit to that effect made by the captain or commander. The second section declares that it shall not be lawful for any person, other than the captain or commander of a ship or vessel, to carry or transport any letter, newspaper, or parcel containing letters—Every violation of this provision shall be punished by a fine of one hundred dollars. The captain of such vessel who refuses or wilfully neglects to deposit all letters in the nearest post office within twenty-four hours after his arrival, shall forfeit five hundred dollars as also double the amount of postage on letters he has failed to give up.

The third section declares that any proprietor, messenger or agent of any Express company, who knowingly or negligently transports any letter, newspaper or communication in writing, and in addition to penalties already prescribed, declares that they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, subject to imprisonment